

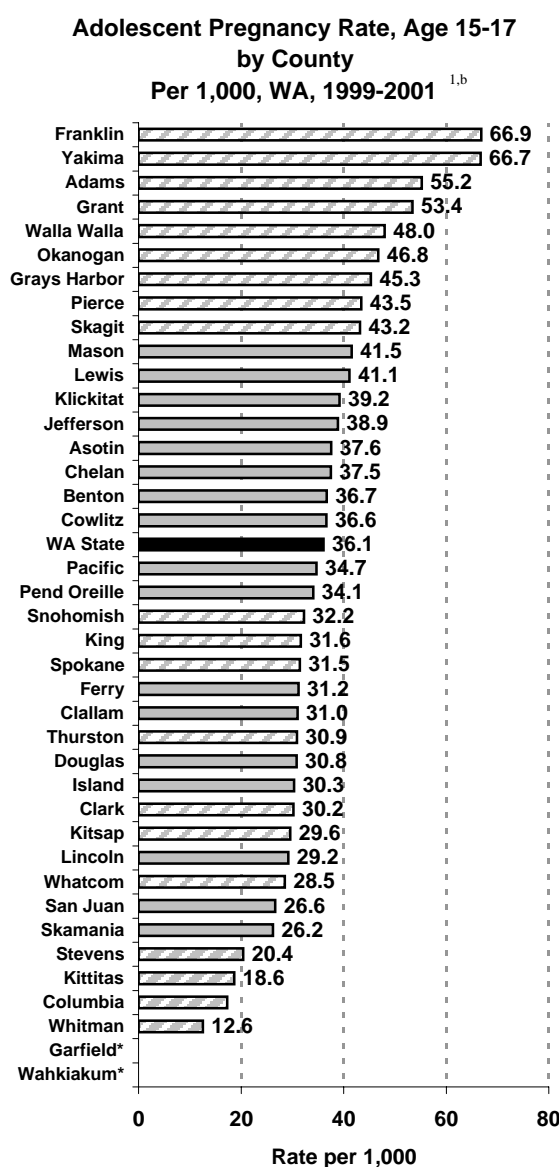
# Adolescent Pregnancy

**Definition:** Adolescent pregnancies are estimated by adding together reported births, induced abortions, and fetal losses for women age 15-17.<sup>a</sup> Spontaneous abortions (miscarriages) occurring prior to 20 weeks gestation are not included because there is no way of accurately estimating their number.

## Key Findings

- ❖ Washington's adolescent pregnancy rate in 2001 was 32.9 per 1,000 women ages 15-17 years. This represented 4,183 pregnancies to women age 15-17. The most recent national rate available is the 1999 adolescent pregnancy rate of 55.9 per 1,000.<sup>1,2</sup>
- ❖ Washington's adolescent pregnancy rate decreased significantly from the 1990 rate of 57.9 per 1,000 women ages 15-17.<sup>1,b</sup>
- ❖ Approximately 54% of adolescent pregnancies resulted in live births for a total of 2,251 births in 2001. The Washington adolescent birth rate was 17.7 per 1,000 in 2001, compared to a national rate of 25.2 per 1,000 women ages 15-17.<sup>1,2</sup>
- ❖ Reliable data on adolescent abortions by race and ethnicity are not available, so race and ethnicity data from live births are presented here. Adolescent birth rates are significantly higher in Blacks and American Indian/ Alaska Natives compared to other racial groups while Hispanics have a significantly higher adolescent birth rate compared to non-Hispanic teens.<sup>1,b</sup>
- ❖ The Healthy People 2010 objective is for no more than 43 pregnancies per 1,000 women 15-17 years old.<sup>3</sup>

## County

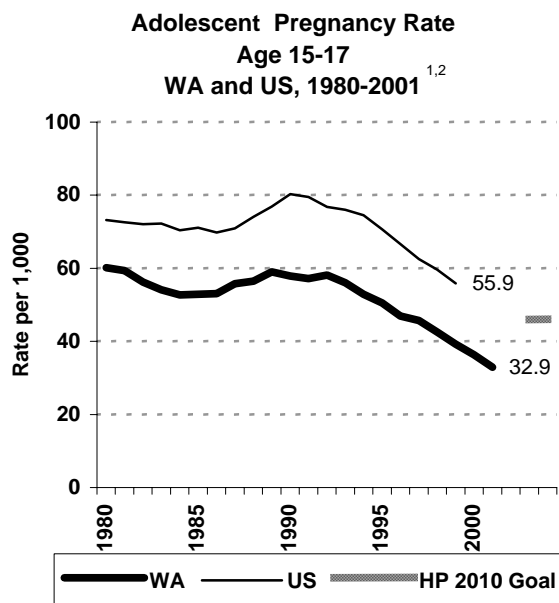


\*Rate not calculated if less than 5 events.

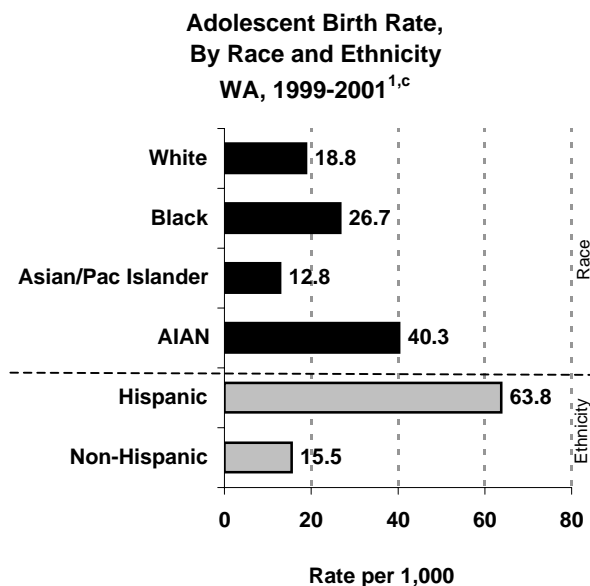
Significantly different from state rate

## Adolescent Pregnancy (cont.)

### Time Trend



### Race and Ethnicity (Live Births)



### Data Sources

- <sup>1</sup> Washington State Pregnancy and Induced Abortion Statistics 2001. Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics.
- <sup>2</sup> Births: Final data for 2001. National Vital Statistics Report; Vol 52 No 2. Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 2002.
- <sup>3</sup> Department of Health and Human Services (US). Healthy People 2010: Understanding and Improving Health. 2nd edition. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office; November 2000.

### Endnotes

- <sup>a</sup> In this section, adolescents are 15-17 year olds unless otherwise indicated. Analysis was restricted to 15-17 year olds because they are school age. Pregnancy among women younger than 15 is a rare event and women older than 17 are at lower risk for poor birth outcomes.
- <sup>b</sup> Significance is based on 95% Confidence Intervals.
- <sup>c</sup> AIAN - American Indian Alaskan Native